Department of Veterans Affairs

the previous September 30 will be divided by the Index as of September 30, 2001. The ratio so obtained will be multiplied by the original copayment amount of \$7. The copayment amount for the new calendar year will be this result, rounded down to the whole dollar amount.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (b)(1): Example for determining copayment amount. If the ratio of the Prescription Drug component of the Medical Consumer Price Index for September 30, 2003, to the corresponding Index for September 30, 2001, is 1.2242, then this ratio multiplied by the original copayment amount of \$7 would equal \$8.57, and the copayment amount for calendar year 2004, rounded down to the whole dollar amount, would be \$8.

- (2) The total amount of copayments in a calendar year for a veteran enrolled in one of the priority categories 2 through 6 of VA's health care system (see §17.36) shall not exceed the cap established for the calendar year. The cap for calendar year 2002 is \$840. If the copayment amount increases after calendar year 2002, the cap of \$840 shall be increased by \$120 for each \$1 increase in the copayment amount.
- (c) Medication not subject to the copayment requirements. The following are exempt from the copayment requirements of this section:
- (1) Medication for a veteran who has a service-connected disability rated 50% or more based on a service-connected disability or unemployability;
- (2) Medication for a veteran's service-connected disability;
- (3) Medication for a veteran whose annual income (as determined under 38 U.S.C. 1503) does not exceed the maximum annual rate of VA pension which would be payable to such veteran if such veteran were eligible for pension under 38 U.S.C. 1521;
- (4) Medication authorized under 38 U.S.C. 1710(e) for Vietnam-era herbicide-exposed veterans, radiation-exposed veterans, Persian Gulf War veterans, or post-Persian Gulf War combat-exposed veterans;
- (5) Medication for treatment of sexual trauma as authorized under 38 U.S.C. 1720D;
- (6) Medication for treatment of cancer of the head or neck authorized under 38 U.S.C. 1720E; and

(7) Medications provided as part of a VA approved research project authorized by 38 U.S.C. 7303.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 501, 1710, 1720D, 1722A) [66 FR 63451, Dec. 6, 2001]

§ 17.111 Copayments for extended care services.

- (a) General. This section sets forth requirements regarding copayments for extended care services provided to veterans by VA (either directly by VA or paid for by VA).
- (b) Copayments. (1) Unless exempted under paragraph (f) of this section, as a condition of receiving extended care services from VA. a veteran must agree to pay VA and is obligated to pay VA a copayment as specified by this section. A veteran has no obligation to pay a copayment for the first 21 days of extended care services that VA provided the veteran in any 12-month period (the 12-month period begins on the date that VA first provided extended care services to the veteran). However, for each day that extended care services are provided beyond the first 21 days, a veteran is obligated to pay VA the copayment amount set forth below to the extent the veteran has available resources. Available resources are based on monthly calculations, as determined under paragraph (d) of this section. The following sets forth the extended care services provided by VA and the corresponding copayment amount per day:
 - (i) Adult day health care—\$15.
 - (ii) Domiciliary care—\$5.
 - (iii) Institutional respite care—\$97.
- (iv) Institutional geriatric evaluation—\$97.
- (v) Non-institutional geriatric evaluation—\$15.
- (vi) Non-institutional respite care—\$15.
 - (vii) Nursing home care—\$97.
- (2) For purposes of counting the number of days for which a veteran is obligated to make a copayment under this section, VA will count each day that adult day health care, non-institutional geriatric evaluation, and non-institutional respite care are provided and will count each full day and partial day for each inpatient stay except for the day of discharge.

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- (c) Definitions. For purposes of this section:
- (1) Adult day health care is a therapeutic outpatient care program that provides medical services, rehabilitation, therapeutic activities, socialization, nutrition and transportation services to disabled veterans in a congregate setting.
- (2) Domiciliary care is defined in §17.30(b).
- (3) Extended care services means adult day health care, domiciliary care, institutional geriatric evaluation, noninstitutional geriatric evaluation, nursing home care, institutional respite care, and noninstitutional respite care.
- (4) Geriatric evaluation is a specialized, diagnostic/consultative service provided by an interdisciplinary team that is for the purpose of providing a comprehensive assessment, care plan, and extended care service recommendations.
- (5) *Institutional* means a setting in a hospital, domiciliary, or nursing home of overnight stays of one or more days.
- (6) Noninstitutional means a service that does not include an overnight stay.
- (7) Nursing home care means the accommodation of convalescents or other persons who are not acutely ill and not in need of hospital care, but who require nursing care and related medical services, if such nursing care and medical services are prescribed by, or are performed under the general direction of, persons duly licensed to provide such care (nursing services must be provided 24 hours a day). Such term includes services furnished in skilled nursing care facilities. Such term excludes hospice care.
- (8) Respite care means care which is of limited duration, is furnished on an intermittent basis to a veteran who is suffering from a chronic illness and who resides primarily at home, and is furnished for the purpose of helping the veteran to continue residing primarily at home. (Respite providers temporarily replace the caregivers to provide services ranging from supervision to skilled care needs.)
- (d) Effect of the veteran's financial resources on obligation to pay copayment.
 (1) A veteran is obligated to pay the co-

payment to the extent the veteran and the veteran's spouse have available resources. For veterans who have been receiving extended care services for 180 days or less, their available resources are the sum of the income of the veteran and the veteran's spouse, minus the sum of the veterans allowance, the spousal allowance, and expenses. For veterans who have been receiving extended care services for 181 days or more, their available resources are the sum of the value of the liquid assets, the fixed assets, and the income of the veteran and the veteran's spouse, minus the sum of the veterans allowance, the spousal allowance, the spousal resource protection amount, and (but only if the veteran—has a spouse or dependents residing in the community who is not institutionalized) expenses. When a veteran is legally separated from a spouse, available resources do not include spousal income, expenses, and assets or a spousal allowance.

- (2) For purposes of determining available resources under this section:
- (i) Income means current income (including, but not limited to, wages and income from a business (minus business expenses), bonuses, tips, severance pay, accrued benefits, cash gifts, inheritance amounts, interest income, standard dividend income from non tax deferred annuities, retirement income, pension income, unemployment payments, worker's compensation payments, black lung payments, tort settlement payments, social security payments, court mandated payments, payments from VA or any other Federal programs, and any other income). The amount of current income will be stated in frequency of receipt, e.g., per week, per month.
- (ii) Expenses means basic subsistence expenses, including current expenses for the following: rent/mortgage for primary residence; vehicle payment for one vehicle; food for veteran, veteran's spouse, and veteran's dependents; education for veteran, veteran's spouse, and veteran's dependents; court-ordered payments of veteran or veteran's spouse (e.g., alimony, child-support); and including the average monthly expenses during the past year for the following: utilities and insurance for the

primary residence; out-of-pocket medical care costs not otherwise covered by health insurance; health insurance premiums for the veteran, veteran's spouse, and veteran's dependents; and taxes paid on income and personal property.

- (iii) Fixed Assets means:
- (A) Real property and other non-liquid assets; except that this does not include—
 - (1) Burial plots:
 - (2) A residence if the residence is:
- (i) The primary residence of the veteran and the veteran is receiving only noninstitutional extended care service; or
- (ii) The primary residence of the veteran's spouse or the veteran's dependents (if the veteran does not have a spouse) if the veteran is receiving institutional extended care service.
 - (3) A vehicle if the vehicle is:
- (i) The vehicle of the veteran and the veteran is receiving only noninstitutional extended care service; or
- (ii) The vehicle of the veteran's spouse or the veteran's dependents (if the veteran does not have a spouse) if the veteran is receiving institutional extended care service.
 - (B) [Reserved]
- (iv) Liquid assets means cash, stocks, dividends received from IRA, 401K's and other tax deferred annuities, bonds, mutual funds, retirement accounts (e.g., IRA, 401Ks, annuities), art, rare coins, stamp collections, and collectibles of the veteran, spouse, and dependents. This includes household and personal items (e.g., furniture, clothing, and jewelry) except when the veteran's spouse or dependents are living in the community.
- (v) Spousal allowance is an allowance of \$20 per day that is included only if the spouse resides in the community (not institutionalized).
- (vi) Spousal resource protection amount means the value of liquid assets but not to exceed \$89,280 if the spouse is residing in the community (not institutionalized).
- (vii) Veterans allowance is an allowance of \$20 per day.
- (3) The maximum amount of a copayment for any month equals the copayment amount specified in paragraph (b)(1) of this section multiplied by the

- number of days in the month. The copayment for any month may be less than the amount specified in paragraph (b)(1) of this section if the veteran provides information in accordance with this section to establish that the copayment should be reduced or eliminated.
- (e) Requirement to submit information. (1) Unless exempted under paragraph (f) of this section, a veteran must submit to a VA medical facility a completed VA Form 10–10EC and documentation requested by the Form at the following times:
- (i) At the time of initial request for an episode of extended care services;
- (ii) At the time of request for extended care services after a break in provision of extended care services for more than 30 days; and
- (iii) Each year at the time of submission to VA of VA Form 10–10EZ.
- (2) When there are changes that might change the copayment obligation (i.e., changes regarding marital status, fixed assets, liquid assets, expenses, income (when received), or whether the veteran has a spouse or dependents residing in the community), the veteran must report those changes to a VA medical facility within 10 days of the change.
- (f) Veterans and care that are not subject to the copayment requirements. The following veterans and care are not subject to the copayment requirements of this section:
- (1) A veteran with a compensable service-connected disability;
- (2) A veteran whose annual income (determined under 38 U.S.C. 1503) is less than the amount in effect under 38 U.S.C. 1521(b);
- (3) Care for a veteran's noncompensable zero percent service-connected disability;
- (4) An episode of extended care services that began on or before November 30, 1999;
- (5) Care authorized under 38 U.S.C. 1710(e) for Vietnam-era herbicide-exposed veterans, radiation-exposed veterans, Persian Gulf War veterans, or post-Persian Gulf War combat-exposed veterans:
- (6) Care for treatment of sexual trauma as authorized under 38 U.S.C. 1720D; or

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(7) Care or services authorized under 38 U.S.C. 1720E for certain veterans regarding cancer of the head or neck.

(g) VA Form 10–10EC.

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Department of Veterans Affai						CAF	RE SERVICES
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10-10FC							Page 1

APPLICATION FOR EXTENDED CARE SERVICES, Continued	CIAL SECUR	. SECURITY NUMBER						
I do not wish to provide my detailed financial information. I understand that I vextended care services and agree to pay the applicable VA copayment as required	will be assesse I by law.	d the max	imur	n copayn	nent ame	ount for		
SIGNATURE	ATE	ATE						
SECTION IV - FIXED ASSETS (VETERAN AND SPOUSE))	VF	TERAN	SP	OUSE				
Primary Residence (Market value minus mortgages or liens. Exclude if vete non-institutional extended care services or spouse or dependent residing in the veteran and spouse maintain separate residences, and the veteran is recedinguation) extended care services, include value of the veteran's primary residence.		\$						
2. Other Residences/Land/Farm or Ranch (Market value minus mortgages or include a second home, vacation home, rental property.)		\$						
3. Vehicle(s) (Value minus any outstanding lien. Exclude primary vehicle if vet non-institutional extended care services or spouse or dependent residing in veteran and spouse maintain separate residences and vehicles, and the ve institutional (inpatient) extended care services, include value of the veteran's prin		\$						
SECTION V - LIQUID ASSETS (VETERAN AND SPOUSE)								
 Cash, Amount in Bank Accounts (e.g., checking and savings accounts, cert individual retirement accounts, stocks and bonds). 		S						
2. Value of Other Liquid Assets (e.g., art, rare coins, stamp collections, collectibles) Minus the amount you owe on these items. Exclude household effects, clothing, jewelry, and personal items if veteran receiving only non-institutional extended care services or spouse or dependent residing in the community.								
	ES FIXED AND LIQUID ASSETS TOTAL ASSETS \$							
SECTION VI - CURRENT GROSS INCOME OF VET								
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CATEGORT	HOW MUCH	HOW MUCH HOW OFTEN			OW MUCH HOW OFTER			
Gross annual income from employment (e.g., wages, bonuses, tips, severances pay, accrued benefits)		\$						
2. Net income from your farm/ranch, property or business.		\$						
3. List other income amounts (e.g., social security, Retirement and pension, interest, dividends) Refer to instructions.	\$							
SECTION VII - DEDUCTIBLE EXPE								
ITEMS		AMOUNT						
 Educational expenses of veteran, spouse or dependent (e.g., tuition, books, feet 				\$				
2. Funeral and Burial (spouse or child, amount you paid for funeral and burial expenses, including prepaid arrangements)						\$		
3. Rent/Mortgage (monthly amount or annual amount)		\$						
4. Utilities (calculate by average monthly amounts over the past 12 months)		\$						
5. Car Payment for one vehicle only (exclude gas, automobile insurance, parking fees, repairs)						\$		
6. Food (for veteran, spouse and dependent)						\$		
 Non-reimbursed medical expenses paid by you or spouse (e.g., copayments for physicians, dentists, medications, Medicare, health insurance, hospital and nursing home expenses) 						\$		
8. Court-ordered payments (e.g., alimony, child support)						\$		
9. Insurance (e.g., automobile insurance, homeowners insurance) Exclude Life Insurance						\$		
10. Taxes (e.g., personal property for home, automobile) Include average monthly expense for taxes paid on income over the past 12 months.						\$		
	\$	\$						
SECTION VIII - CONSENT FOR ASSIGNMEN	T OF BENEFITS	5						
I hereby authorize the Department of Veterans Affairs to disclose any such hi medical records to the contractor of any health plan contract under which I am a expense of care or to any other parry against whom liability is asserted. I under except to the extent that action has already been taken in reliance on it. Without expire when all action arising from VA's claim for reimbursement for my med medical benefits to VA for any services for which payment is accepted.	apparently eligo stand that I man my express rev	ible for me y revoke to ocation, th	edica his a nis co	al care or authorizat onsent wi l. I author	paymer ion at an Il autom ize pay	nt of the ny time, natically		
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	VETERANS NAME	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER			
APPLICATION FOR EXTENDED CARE SERVICES, Continued					
SECTI	ON IX - CONSENT TO AGREEMENT TO MAKE COPAYMENTS				
Completion of this form with signature of the Veteran or veteran's representative is certification that the veteran representative has received a copy of the Privacy Act Statement and agrees to make appropriate copayments.					
I certify the foregoing statement(s) are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and agree to make the applicable copayment for extended care services as required by law.					
SIGNATURE		DATE			
S	ECTION X- PAPERWORK PRIVACY ACT INFORMATION				
202.273.8247 for mailing information on	requires us to notify you that this information collection is in acrowork Reduction Act of 1995. We may not conduct or sponsor, unless it displays a valid OMB number. We anticipate that will average 90 minutes. This includes the time it will take to ou have comments regarding this burden estimate or any other awhere to send your comments. asking you to provide the information on this form under Tirder for VA to determine your eligibility for extended care benefin extended care services. The information you supply in	ispect of this confection, can			
computer-matching program. VA may i "routine use" disclosure of the informatic Notice of Privacy Practices. You do not request and serve your medical needs. F- may be entitled. If you provide VA you this information to identify veterans at authorized or required by law.	in extended care services. The information you supply n disclose the information that you put on the form as permitted as a could not in the Privacy Act systems of records notices and have to provide the information to VA, but if you don't. VA will ailure to furnish the information will not have any affect on any Social Security Number, VA will use it to administer your Vad persons claiming or receiving VA benefits and their record	of by law. VA may make a in accordance with the VHA Il be unable to process your other benefits to which you benefits, VA may also use			
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:					
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CEREMONIES

 $\begin{array}{l} \hbox{(Authority: 38 U.S.C. } 101(28),\, 501,\, 1701(7),\, 1710,\\ 1710B,\, 1720B,\, 1720D,\, 1722A) \end{array}$

[67 FR 35040, May 17, 2002; as amended at 69 FR 39846, July 1, 2004]

§ 17.112 Services or ceremonies on Department of Veterans Affairs hospital or center reservations.

(a) Services or ceremonies on Department of Veterans Affairs hospital or